BEFORE THE BOARD OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES in and for the STATE OF UTAH

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPROVAL OF THE NOTICE OF INTENT AND RECLAMATION PLAN SUBMITTED BY PLATEAU RESOURCES LTD., SHOOTERING CANYON PROCESSING FACILITY, GARFIELD COUNTY, UTAH.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE NO. ACT/017/016

THE STATE OF UTAH TO ALL OPERATORS, TAKERS OF PRODUCTION, MINERAL AND ROYALTY OWNERS, AND PARTICULARLY ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN TOWNSHIP 35 and 36 SOUTH, RANGE 11 EAST, SLBM, GARFIELD COUNTY, UTAH.

Notice is hereby given that tentative approval was given to Plateau Resources Ltd. by the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining to commence primary uranium processing on Sections 33 and 34, Township 35 South, Range 11 East, and Sections 3 and 4, Township 36 South, Range 11 East, Garfield County, Utah. The name of the facility is the Shootering Canyon Processing Facility and the person representing the company in this matter is Mr. R.B. Sewell, Manager of Operations, Plateau Resources Ltd., 772 Horizon Drive, Grand Junction, Colorado 81501.

Plateau Resources has fulfilled obligations under the Mined Land Reclamation Act of 1975 (Section 40-8, U.C.A., 1953 as amended) and will employ the following reclamation techniques on 350 acres which will comprise the land affected. Legal access to the land affected is by mill site claims, lode claims and placer claims.

DURING OPERATIONS:

- 1. This facility will process 750 tons of uranium ore into U₃08 (yellowcake) per day and will operate seven days a week. The facility is expected to be in operation for 20 years.
- 2. A two-lane, all weather road, approximately two (2) miles in length will connect the plant site with State Highway 276. The road will be gravel surface and maintenance will be occasional grading and spraying for dust control.
- 3. A small amount of desert shrubbery present on the site will be removed and buried in an area to be designated within the limits of Plateau Resources Limited property lines.
- 4. The topsoil will be removed and stockpiled for future use. The stockpile will be vegetated to reduce wind erosion.
- 5. Plant species for revegetation will be determined from test plot data.

- 6. A tailings disposal facility will be constructed and will incorporate features that will meet the safety criteria specified by the NRC.
- 7. The release of airborne particulates from tailings will be controlled by the use of a water sprinkler system, chemical stabilization, covering with soil, or other equivalent means until reclamation of the tailings is completed.
- 8. An environmental monitoring program will be implemented as described in the plan.
- 9. The Office of the State Archaeologist will be notified if artifacts are discovered during construction of the mill or tailings disposal areas.
- 10. If unexpected harmful effects or evidence of irreversible damage not otherwise identified in the Environmental Statement are detected during construction and operation, Plateau Resources Ltd. will provide to the NRC and the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining an acceptable analysis of the problem and a plan of action to eliminate or reduce the harmful effects or damage.

AFTER OPERATIONS:

- 1. All plant structures and facilities will be dismantled and removed from the plant site. Depressions will be filled in and runoff from this area will continue to flow towards the tailings area.
- 2. The entire plant site will be covered to a depth of approximately 1 foot with the previously stockpiled topsoil, fertilized and planted with native vegetation.
- Reclamation and restoration of the tailings impoundment area will progress throughout the operating life of the ore processing facility, and will be concluded promptly after the termination of the processing operations. Observations and measurements to be made at 3-month intervals over a 5-year period following completion of the project closure procedures will be as follows:
 - A. <u>Dam</u> visual inspection for settlement of crest and erosion downstream slope,
 - B. Spillway visual inspection for obstructions in channel,
 - C. Groundwater visual check for water in observation wells and seepage at toe or downstream from dam,
 - D. Tailings Cap visual inspection for signs of wind erosion,
 - E. Radiation change radon cups and TLDs at five monitoring s stations and analyze results.

Reclamation performance surety will be posted prior to final approval of the reclamation plan.

Any person or agency aggrieved by this tentative decision is hereby requested to submit written protest within 30 days from August 7, 1979, to the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining, 1588 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116, setting forth factual reasons for his or her complaint, and thereafter, at a time and place heretobe established, appear before the Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining, to show cause, if any there be, why this plan should not be approved.

DATED this 31st day of July, 1979.

STATE OF UTAH BOARD OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING

THALTA R. BUSBY

Secretary of the Board